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# **News Release**

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## **Eveleth man pleads guilty to filing a false tax return**

A 60-year-old Eveleth man pleaded guilty today in federal court to one count of filing a false tax return.

On Aug. 21 in Duluth, Gary Benedict Winkler entered his plea before United States District Court Judge Joan Ericksen. Winkler was charged on July 16.

According to Winkler's plea agreement, he admitted filing a false tax return for 2003, in which he failed to report approximately \$101,913 in income he had received from writing checks to himself. Winkler admitted filing false tax returns for tax years 2001, 2002 and 2004, totaling approximately \$67,677.

Winkler faces a potential maximum penalty of three years in prison. Judge Ericksen will determine Winkler's sentence at a future date. This case is the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation Division and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nicole A. Engisch.